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AUTHORITY

BLACKHAWK

SEPTEMBER
No. 104

See
**THE JET
MENACE**



**CRASHING THROUGH
THE SOUND BARRIER
IN A SABOTAGED PLANE**



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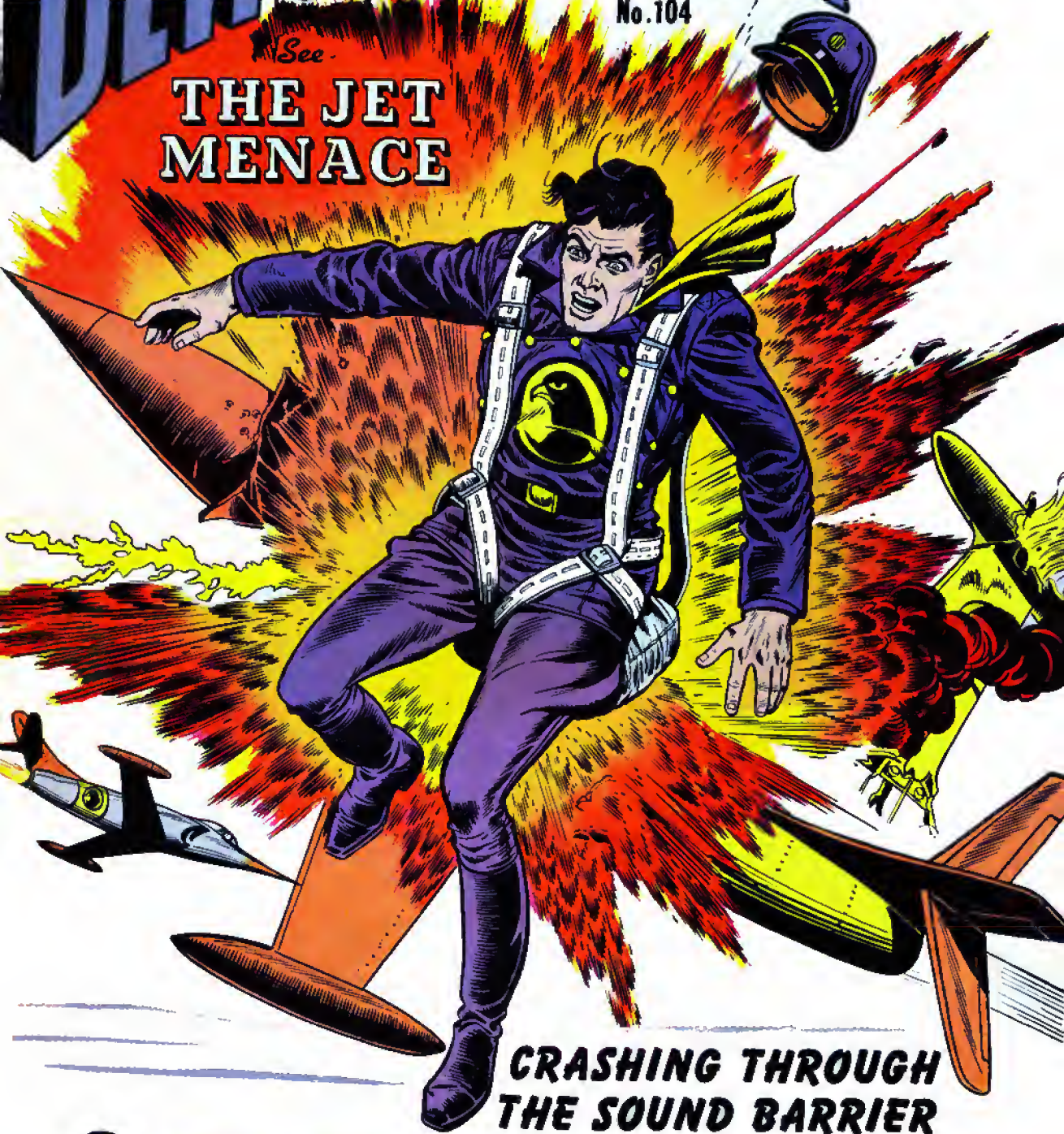
BLACKHAWK

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THE JET MENACE



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THE SOUND BARRIER
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Only here can you get the fascinating story of how an English schoolboy, in 1873, discovered a stamp in British Guiana and sold it for only \$1.50. Today this bit of paper is worth more than \$50,000. Send for your FREE reproduction, in color, of this rare stamp today!

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RUSH COUPON TODAY!

BLACKHAWK

BLACKHAWK

IN A MYSTERIOUS MANOR HOUSE OUTSIDE TURBRITZ, AUSTRIA, A TOWN NEAR THE CZECH BORDER, A FIERCE DRAMA OF SURVIVAL WAS ENACTED! THE FORCES OF GOOD WERE BATTLING AGAINST THE DIABOLICAL FORCES OF EVIL IN A DESPERATE EFFORT TO RESCUE A MAN WHOSE SECRET KNOWLEDGE COULD TIP THE SCALES OF WORLD POWER! IT WAS A FIGHT TO THE FINISH BETWEEN THE BLACKHAWKS AND THE BLACKEST-HEARTED REDS WHO EVER TRIED TO FRUSTRATE A MERCY MISSION! DESPITE EVERY DANGER THRUST IN THEIR PATH, THE INTREPID BLACKHAWKS WERE READY TO DIE IN THE ATTEMPT TO CONDUCT THEIR DARING...

RESCUE UNDER FIRE

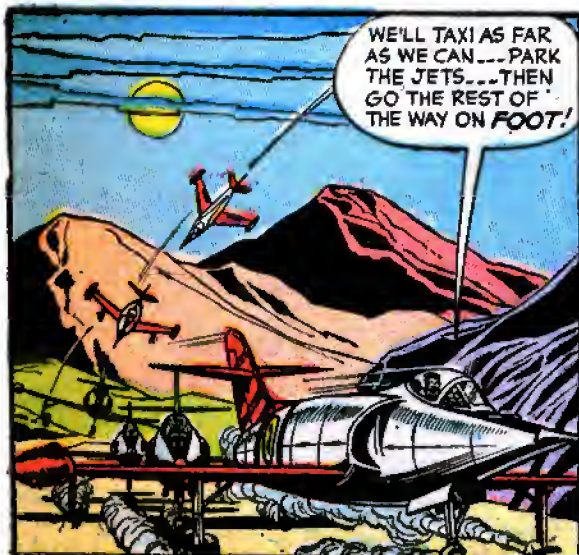
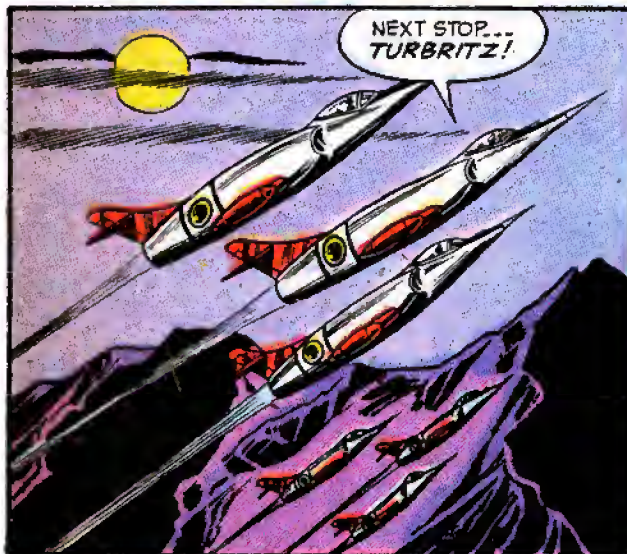
BLACKHAWK! LOOK OUT!
ZOSE ARE REDS!

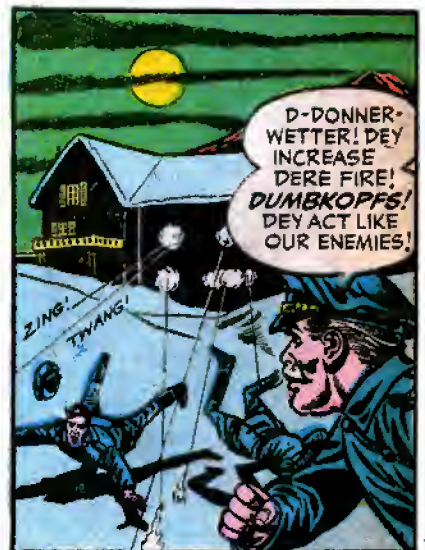
THE BLACKHAWKS
CAN'T GET OUT OF
OUR WAY IN TIME!
THEY'RE FINISHED!

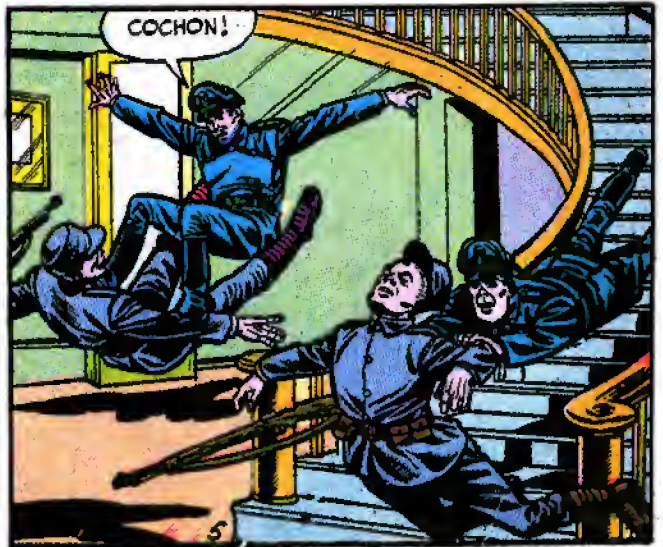
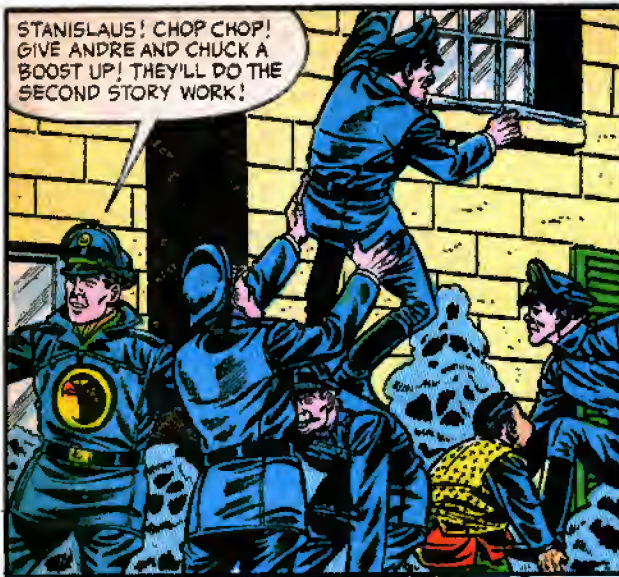
RUMBLE!
RUMBLE!

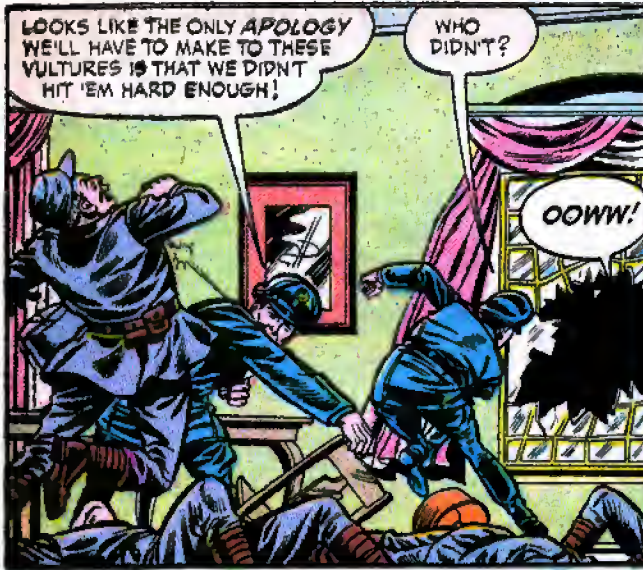


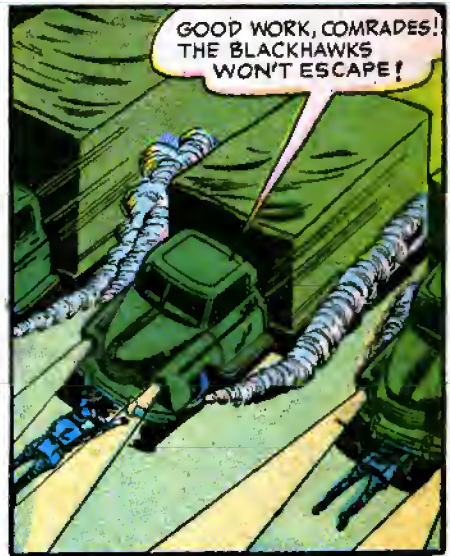
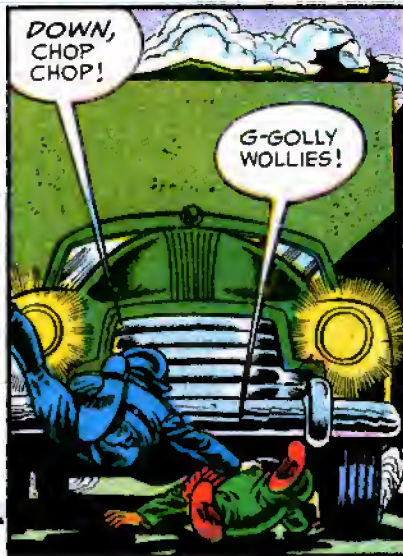
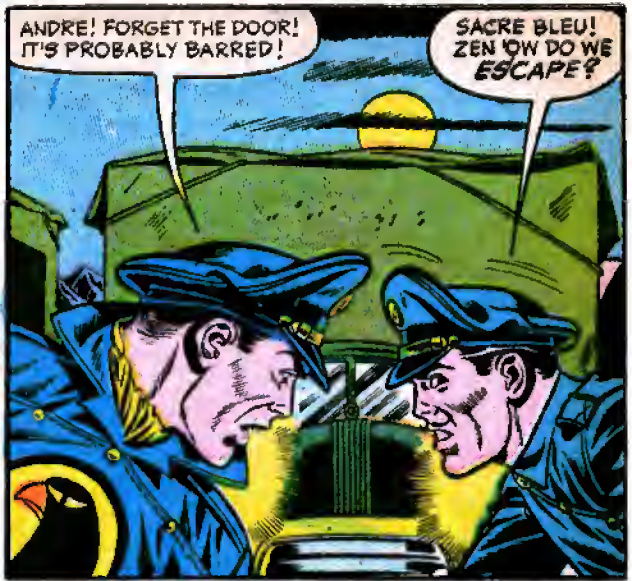
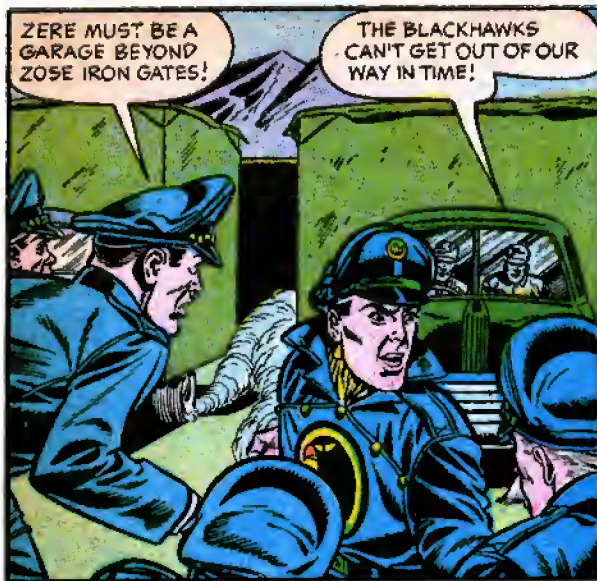


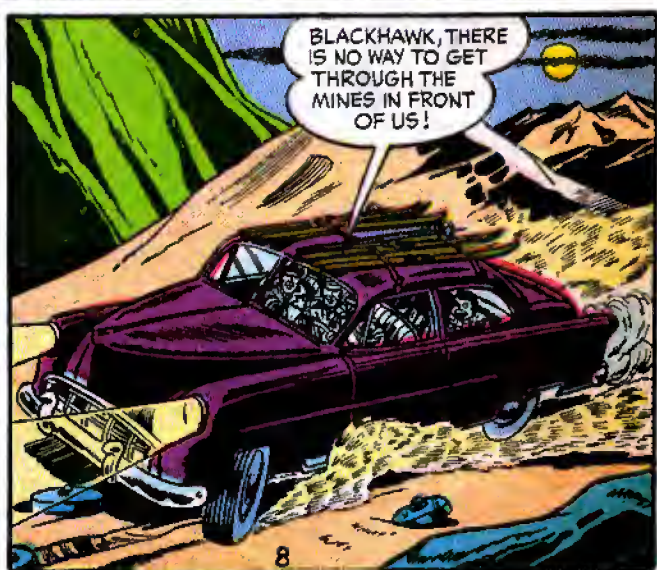
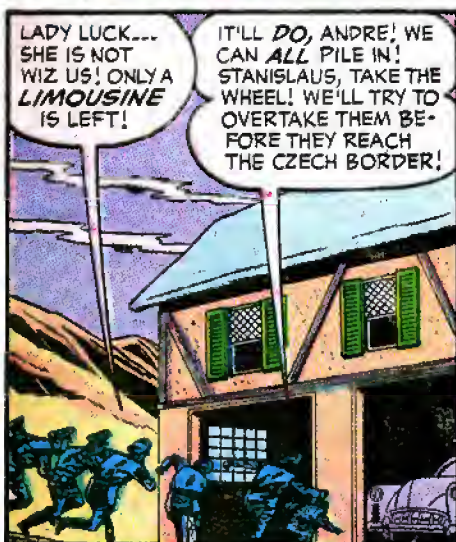
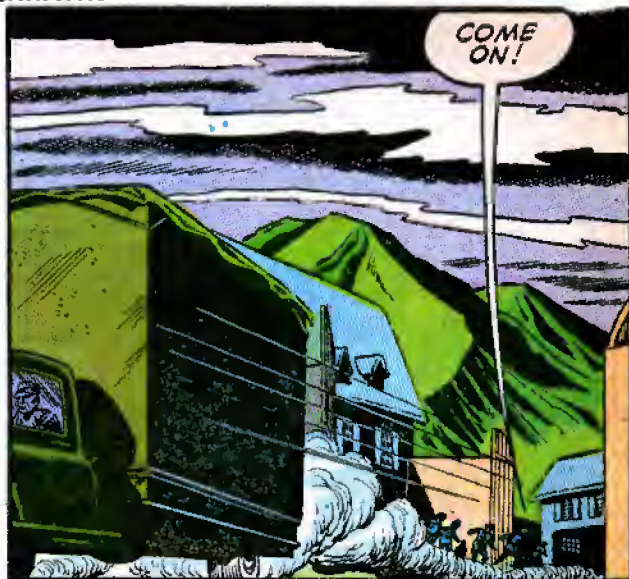


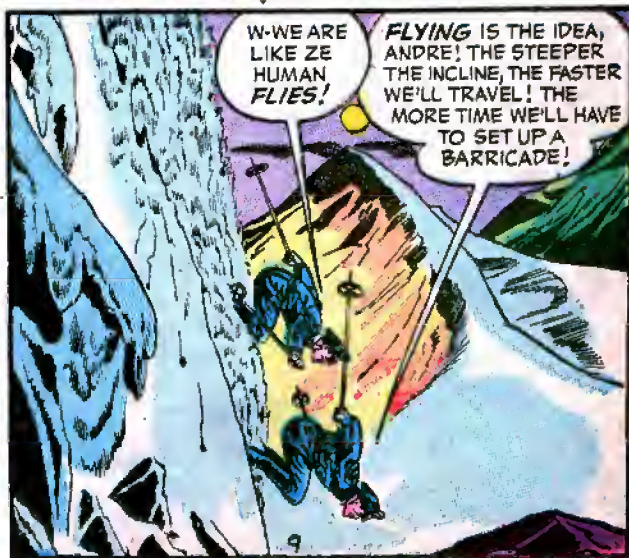
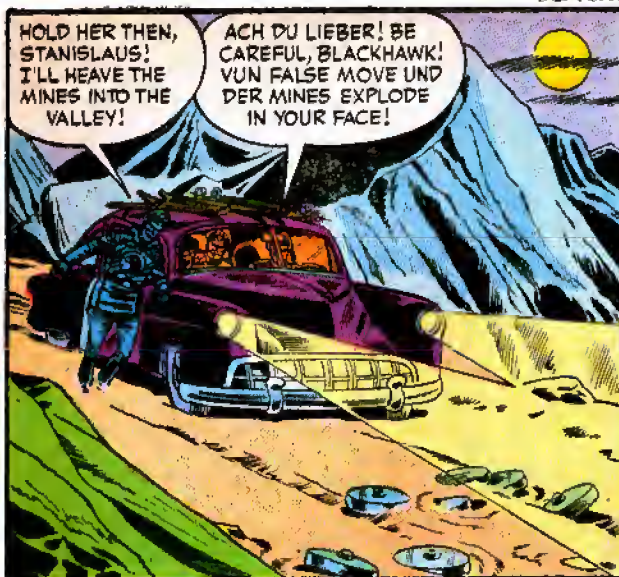












MINUTES LATER, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ROAD...



WE 'AVE COME FOR NOSSING! ZERE IS NOSSING HERE WITH WHICH TO CONSTRUCT ZE BARRICADE! WE CANNOT CHOP ZE TREES DOWN WIZ OUR HANDS!

LOWER YOUR VOICE, ANDRE! THERE'S A MASS OF SNOW ABOVE! ANY LOUD SOUND VIBRATION WILL MAKE IT FALL!

F-FALL? THAT'S IT, ANDRE! GET UNDER THAT LEDGE AND YELL YOUR HEAD OFF!



MON DIEU! I-I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, BLACKHAWK!

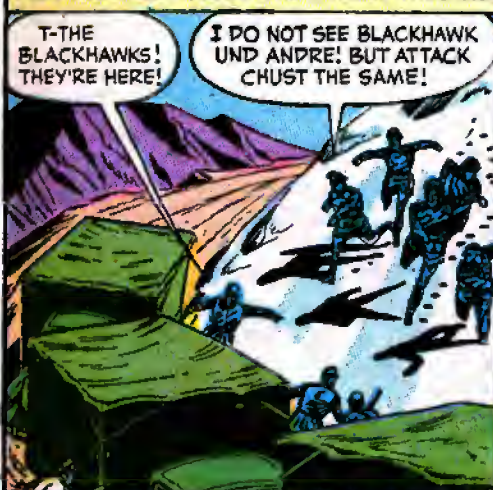
AS TWO HUMAN VOICES GO TO WORK...



ZE AVALANCHE! S-SHE BLOCKS ZE ROAD!

EXACTLY, ANDRE! AND HERE COME THE REDS! STAY OUT OF SIGHT TILL THE REST OF OUR MEN SHOW UP!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS FIVE DETERMINED FIGURES RACE TOWARD THE STALLED TRUCKS...



T-THE BLACKHAWKS! THEY'RE HERE!

I DO NOT SEE BLACKHAWK UND ANDRE! BUT ATTACK CHUST THE SAME!



AT 'EM, ANDRE! IT'S NOW OR NEVER!

W-WE ARE SURROUNDED!

AND AS THE BLACKHAWKS VENT THEIR PENT-UP FURY ON THE REDS...



HOLD THEM, BLACKHAWK! IN THEIR EAGERNESS TO ATTACK YOU, THEY LET ME AND MY SECRET AGENT FRIENDS GET FREE! WE WILL HELP YOU!

IT'S VON KULLMAN AND THE DEMOCRATIC SECRET AGENTS! NOW WE'VE REALLY GOT 'EM LICKED!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE REDS TERRIFIEDLY SURRENDER...



THIS IS A GREAT PLEASURE, BLACKHAWK! YOU HAVE PROVED YOUR COURAGE AND RESOURCEFULNESS BEYOND ANY DOUBT!

THANKS, VON KULLMAN! YOU'VE HAD A ROUGH TRIP UP TO NOW, BUT YOUR NEXT STOP IS... AMERICA!

FOR BIG MEN ONLY!

SIZES 10 TO 16 - WIDTHS AAA TO EEE

We're America's ONLY Specialists in shoes for BIG MEN! Crepe-Sole Casuals, Cordovans, Wing-Tips, Low Cuts, Hand-Sewn Moccasins, Golf Shoes, Dress Oxfords, Work Shoes, Sox, Slippers and even Rubbers! All in Sizes 10 to 16 - Widths AAA to EEE! All priced amazingly low, because famous King-Size Shoes are sold only by mail, not in stores! Every pair backed by iron-clad money-back Guarantee - and by thousands of happy King-Size buyers all over America!



**FREE
STYLE
FOLDER**

ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH TO FILL OUR SHOES?

HERE'S HOW BIG MEN GET STYLES THEY WANT . . .

FREE Style Folder shows every new King-Size model - all the latest styles that can't be found in stores, in your hard-to-get big size! You'll be delighted at the special construction features that give extra comfort and extra wear to big men! You'll be thrilled at the LOW, LOW PRICES

on King-Size Shoes - Shoes that will fit you perfectly in any size from 10 to 16 . . . any width from AAA to EEE! Sit down right NOW and drop a card to King-Size! See how YOU can get the styles you want in the size you need! Don't delay another moment - write us NOW!

**KING*SIZE
INC.**

*FREE Style Folder sent immediately, and without obligation! The supply is limited, so be sure you write us TODAY!

771 BROCKTON, MASS.

WRITE! NOW!



100 TOY SOLDIERS.

EACH ON ITS OWN BASE.

MADE OF DURABLE PLASTIC,
MEASURING UP TO 4 1/4"!

- ★ FUN TO SHOW
- ★ FUN TO TRADE
- ★ FUN TO COLLECT

EACH FOOTLOCKER CONTAINS:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 4 Tanks | 8 Officers |
| 4 Jeeps | 8 Waves |
| 4 Battleships | 8 Wacs |
| 4 Cruisers | 4 Bombers |
| 4 Sailors | 4 Trucks |
| 4 Riflemen | 8 Jet Planes |
| 8 Machinegunners | 8 Cannons |
| 8 Sharpshooters | 4 Bazookamen |
| 4 Infantrymen | 4 Marksmen |

PACKED in this FOOTLOCKER

MODERN TOY, DEPT. OC-5
31 WEST 47TH ST.
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.
HERE'S MY \$1.25!

Rush the TOY SOLDIERS TO ME!

Name

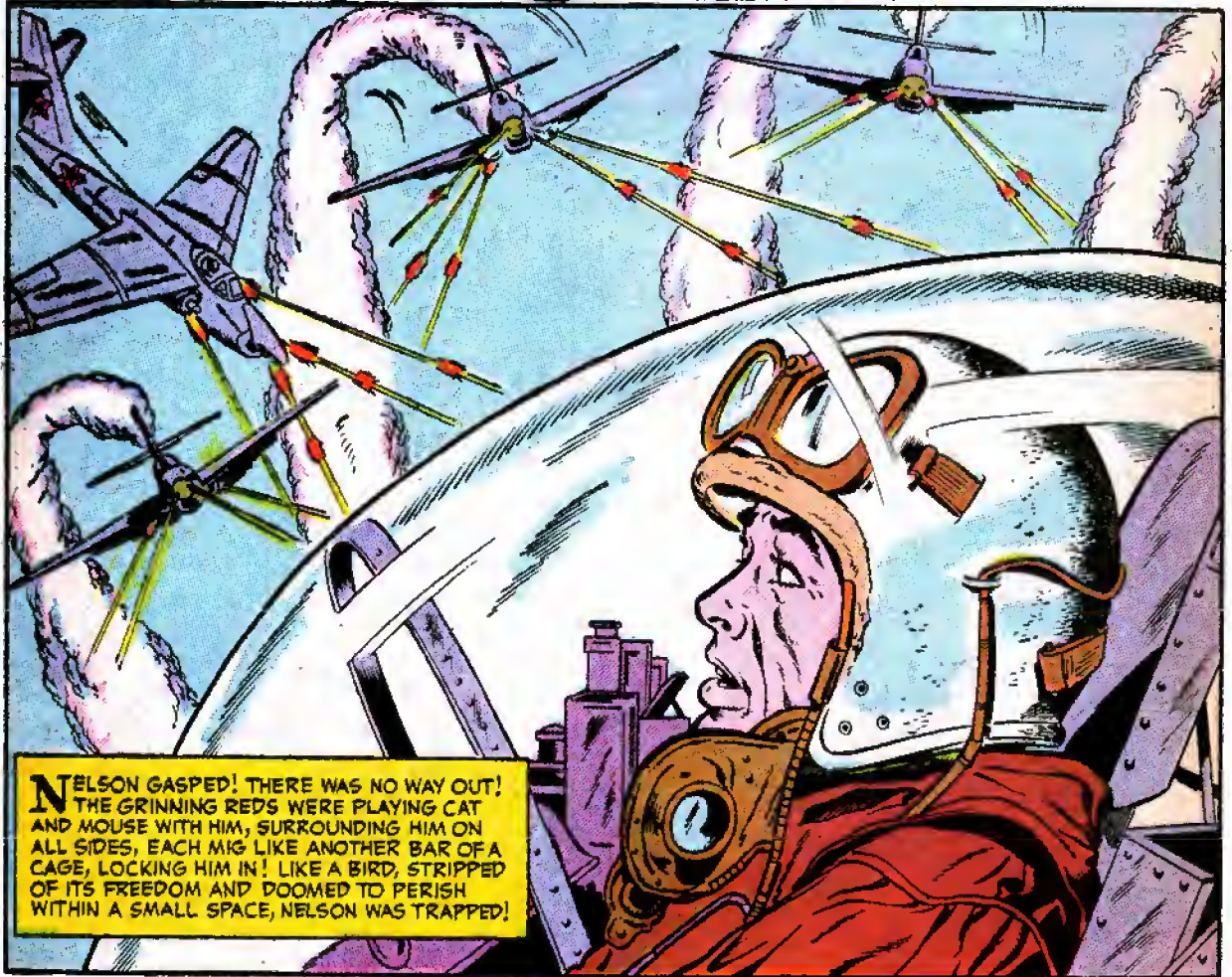
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City..... State

NO GOD'S

BLACKHAWK

CAGED!



NELSON GASPED! THERE WAS NO WAY OUT! THE GRINNING REDS WERE PLAYING CAT AND MOUSE WITH HIM, SURROUNDING HIM ON ALL SIDES, EACH MIG LIKE ANOTHER BAR OF A CAGE, LOCKING HIM IN! LIKE A BIRD, STRIPPED OF ITS FREEDOM AND DOOMED TO PERISH WITHIN A SMALL SPACE, NELSON WAS TRAPPED!

LT. JIM NELSON WAS A PILOT IN AN AMERICAN JET SQUADRON IN KOREA WHICH WAS UNDER-MANNED AND OVER-WORKED! JIM COULDN'T REMEMBER WHEN HE HAD A FURLOUGH LAST... AND HE BOILED WITH REGRETMENT!

HIS LEG HAD BEEN INJURED DURING A DOG-FIGHT WITH THE REDS! HERE WAS HIS CHANCE, HE'D THOUGHT, FOR A MUCH NEEDED REST... A SOJOURN IN TOKYO, AT LEAST! BUT NELSON NEVER LEFT THE BASE!

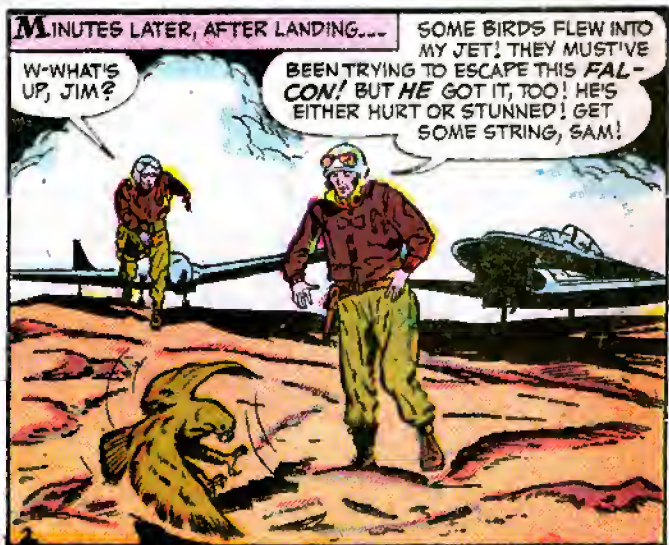
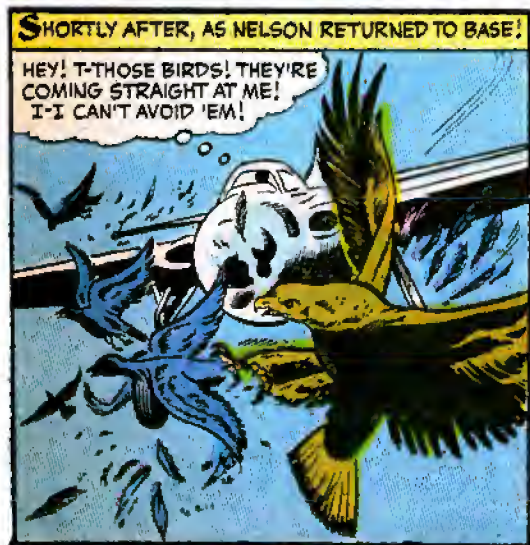
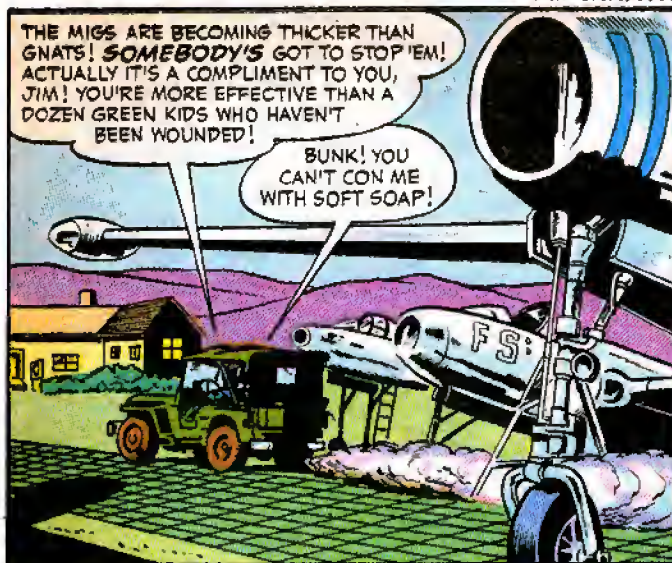
IMAGINE! THEY COULD'VE SENT ME TO TOKYO TO RECUPERATE! BUT NO! THEY KEPT ME **HERE**... IN THE BASE HOSPITAL! NOT EVEN A CHANGE OF SCENERY!

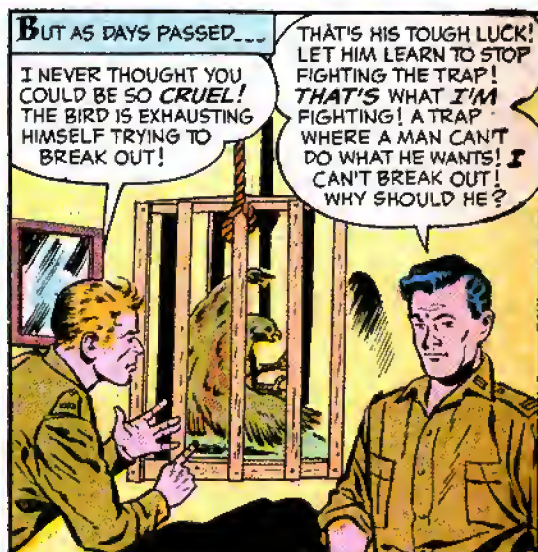
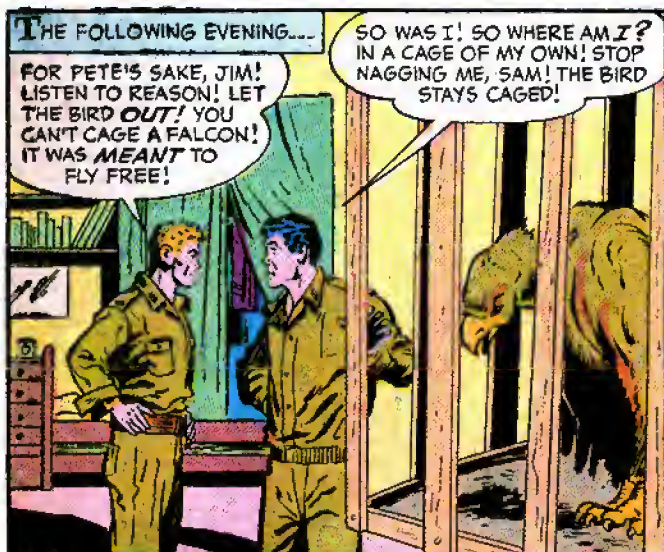
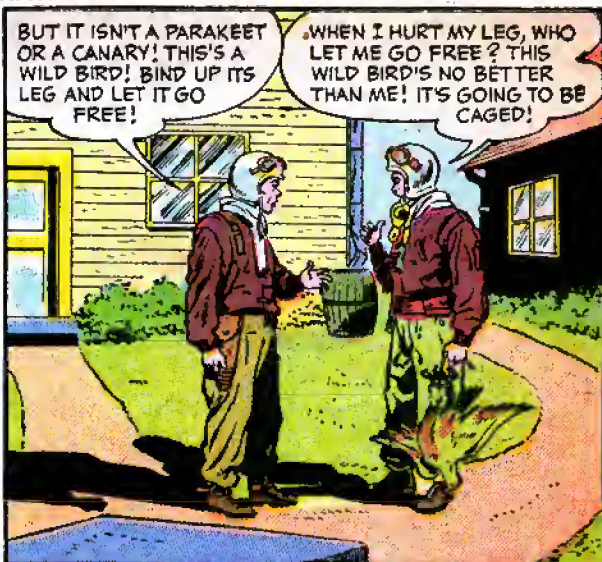
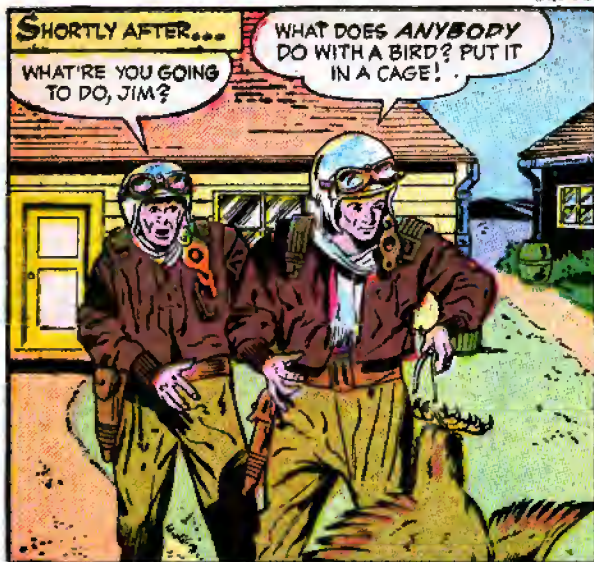


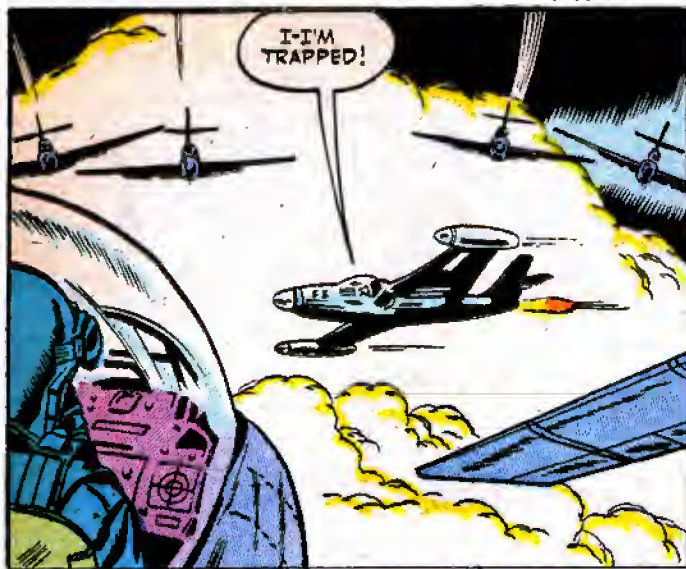
THE DOCTORS TOLD ME THE INJURY WASN'T BAD! THEY'RE TELLING ME HOW I SHOULD FEEL, SAM!

DOCTORS KNOW BEST, JIM! BESIDES, YOUR EXPERIENCE IS **NEEDED** HERE! THE SITUATION IS GETTING ROUGH!

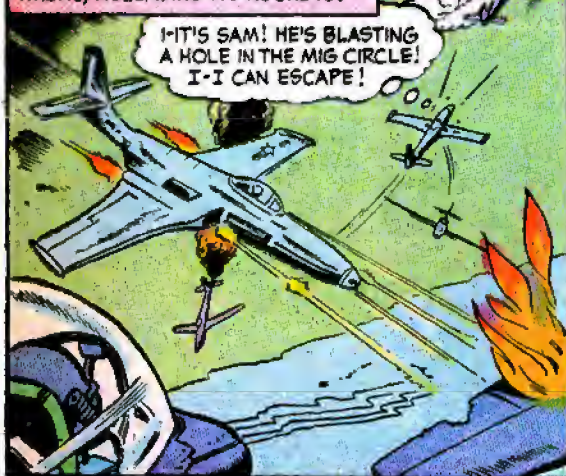




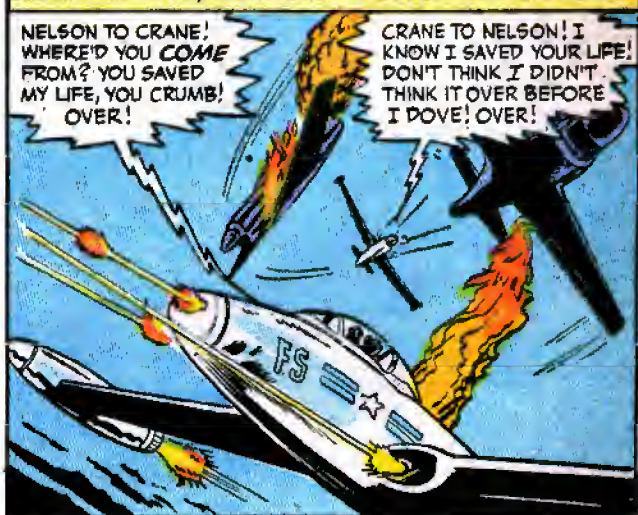




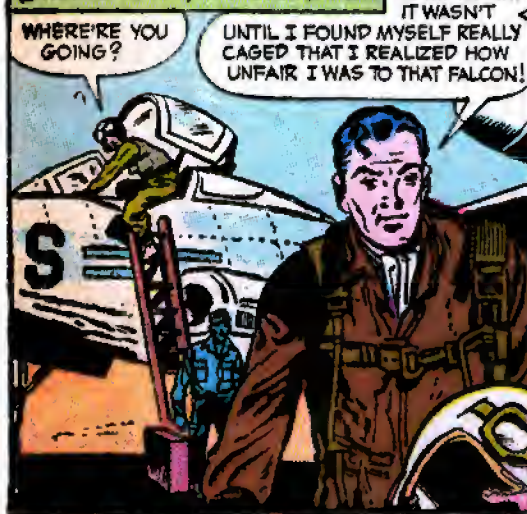
BUT EVEN AS NELSON LUNGED AT HIS NEAREST TORMENTER, ANOTHER JET STREAKED DOWN OUT OF NOWHERE, RELEASING ITS ROCKETS!



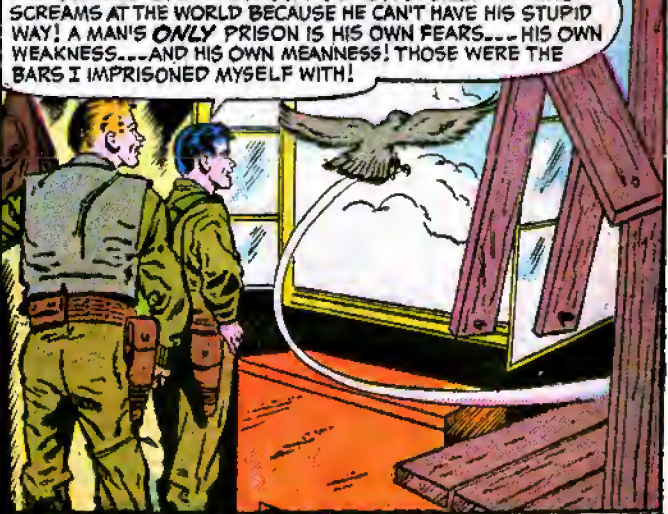
MOMENTS LATER, HAVING BROKEN OUT OF THE MIG RING...



SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE AIR BASE...



I'VE BEHAVED LIKE AN IDIOT, SAM! LIKE A SPOILED KID WHO SCREAMS AT THE WORLD BECAUSE HE CAN'T HAVE HIS STUPID WAY! A MAN'S ONLY PRISON IS HIS OWN FEARS... HIS OWN WEAKNESS... AND HIS OWN MEANNESS! THOSE WERE THE BARS I IMPRISONED MYSELF WITH!



BLACKHAWK

BLACKHAWK

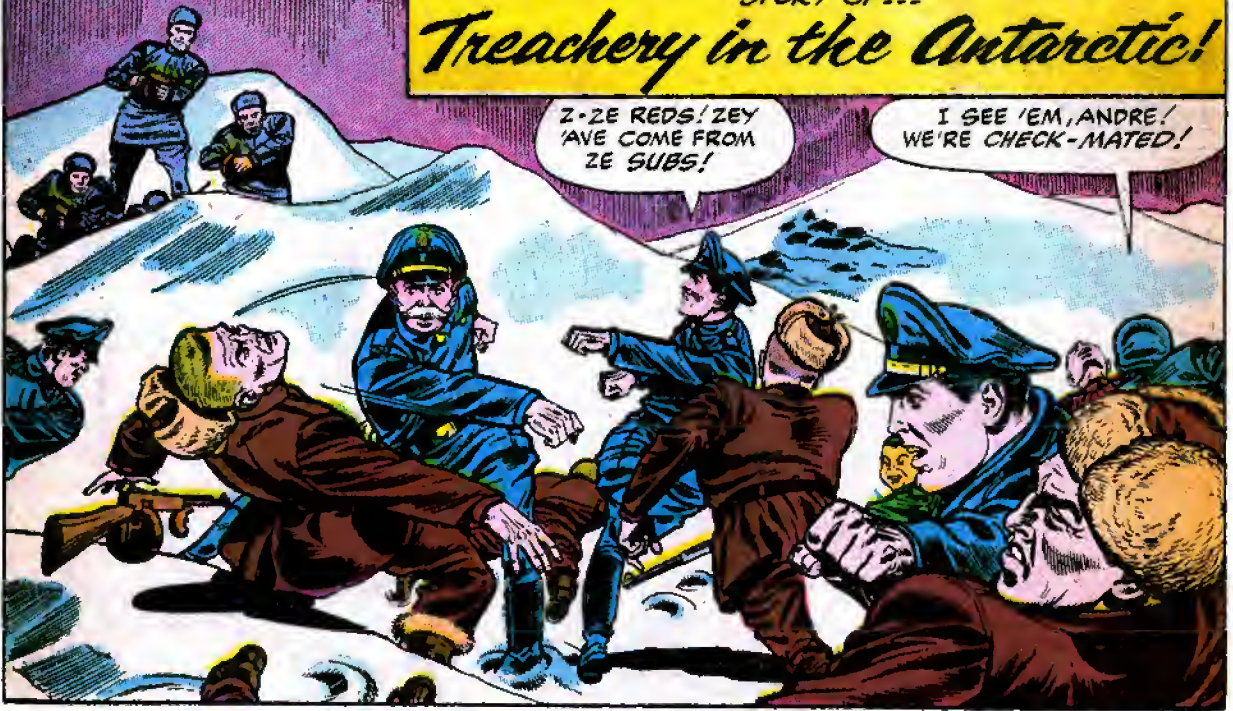
YOUR STRUGGLE IS FUTILE, BLACKHAWK! YIELD OR THESE MEN ARE DOOMED!

RED TREACHERY TOOK BLACKHAWK TO THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD, WHERE MORE THINGS ARE AT STAKE THAN SNOW AND ICE! VITAL MATERIALS, FOR INSTANCE... AND THE DEATH STRUGGLE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND DEMOCRACY TO CONTROL THEM! HOW THE BLACKHAWKS TRIED TO THWART A COMMIE GRAB TO UNDO THE WESTERN WORLD AND HOW THE CUNNING REDS RETALIATED IS THE NERVE-TINGLING STORY OF...

Treachery in the Antarctic!

Z-ZE REDS! ZEY 'AVE COME FROM ZE SUBS!

I SEE 'EM, ANDRE! WE'RE CHECK-MATED!



ABOARD A FREE WORLD NAVAL VESSEL, SOMEWHERE IN THE ANTARCTIC, A COMMIE SECRETED ON BOARD ADDRESSES PROFESSOR JANUS, LEADER OF THE EXPEDITION HUNTING FOR PLUTONIUM!

WE HAVE CONTACTED THE RED SUBS, PROFESSOR JANUS!

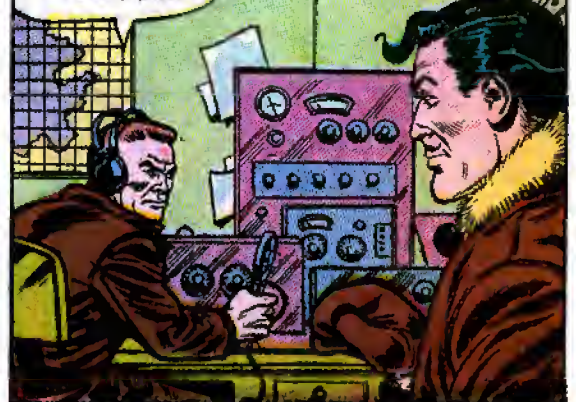
GOOD! MAKE SURE I GET NO SURPRISE VISITORS WHEN I'M IN THE RADIO ROOM!



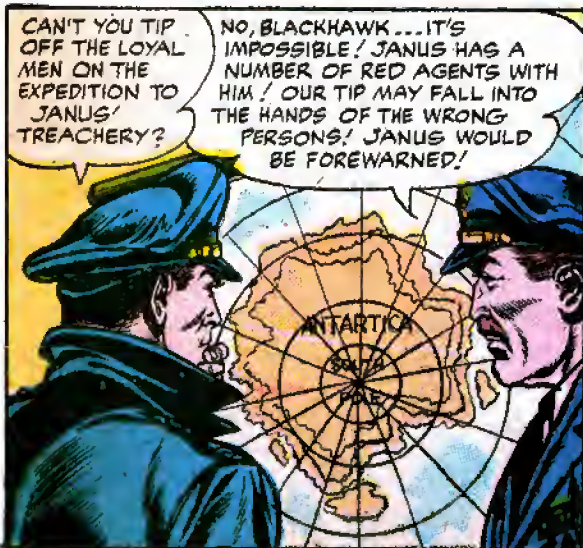
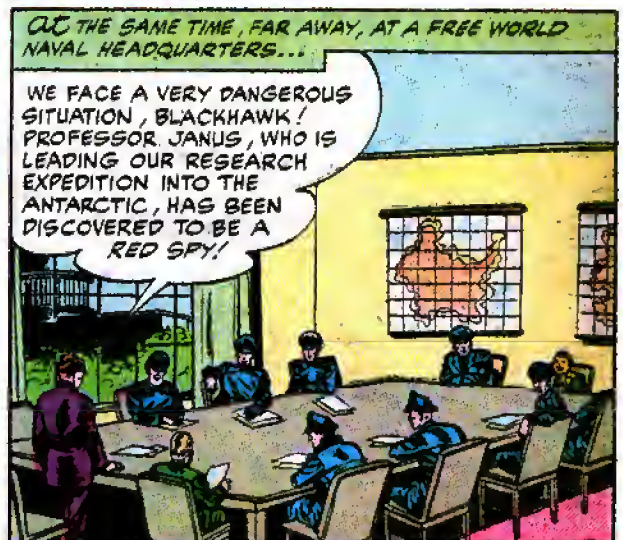
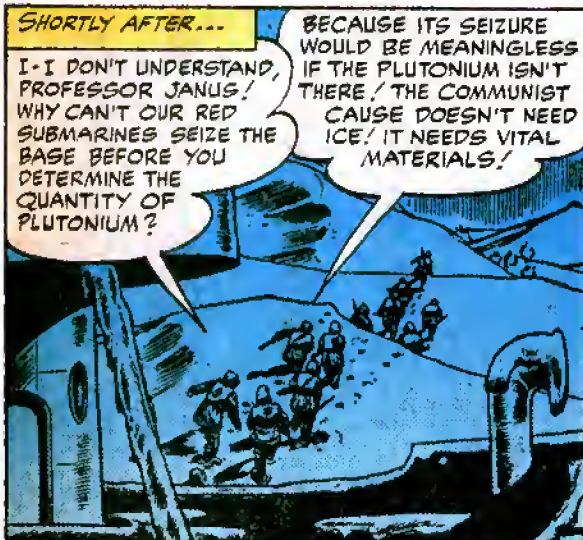
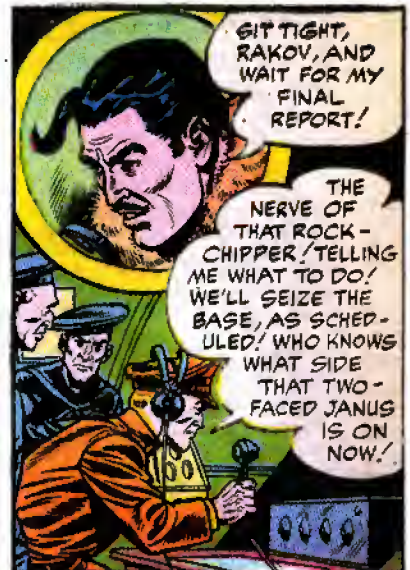
THE RADIO OPERATOR IS ALSO A RED AGENT...

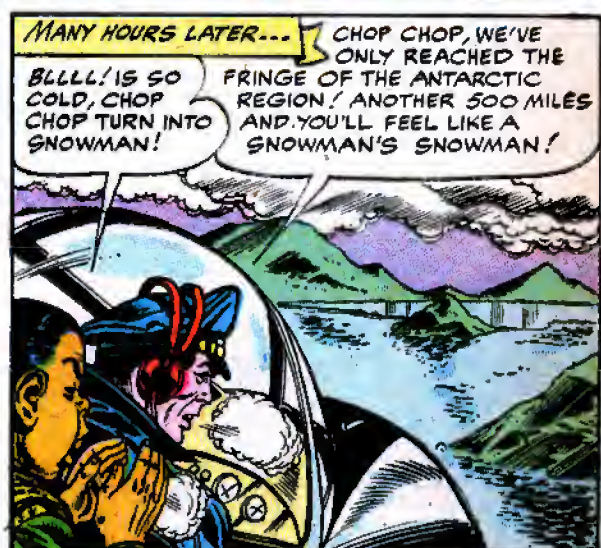
OUR SUBMARINES AWAIT YOUR ORDERS, SIR!

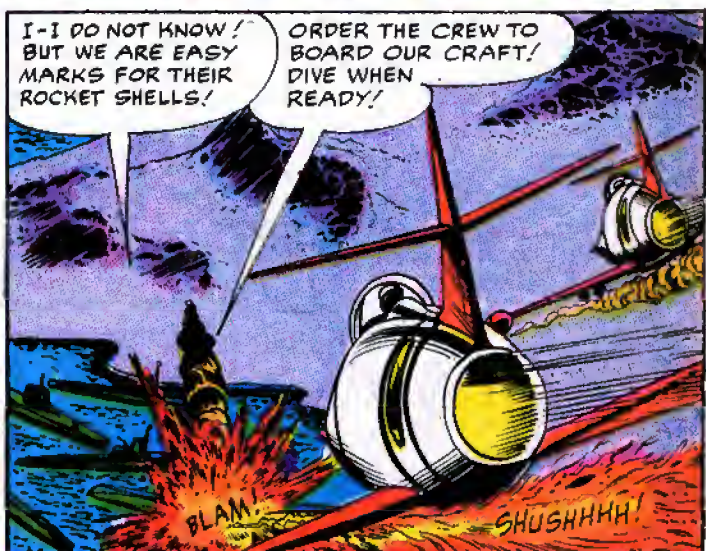
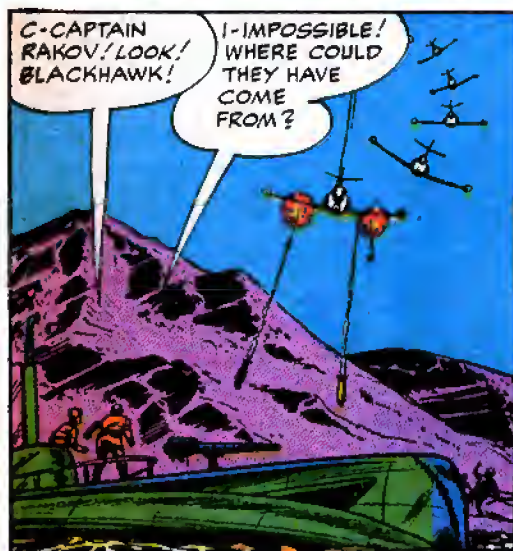
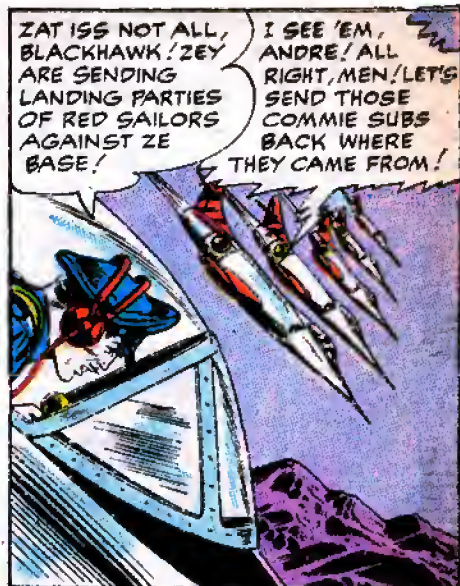
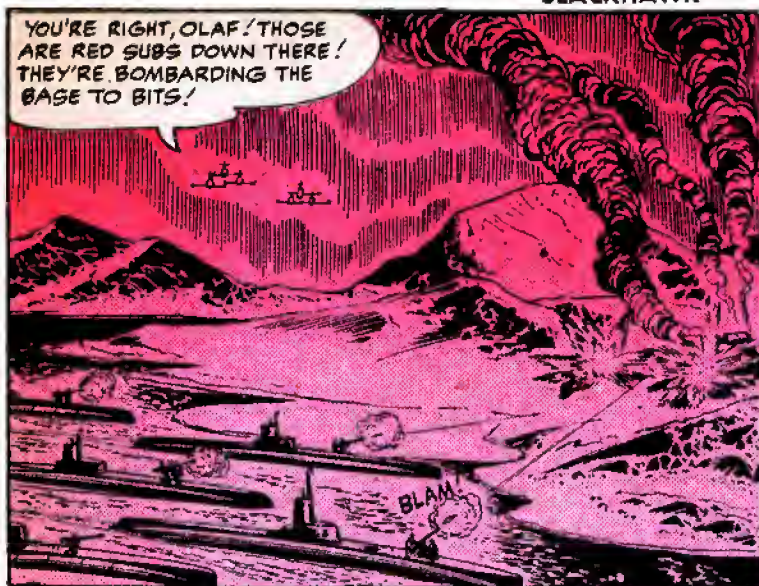
GIVE ME THE MIKE!



BLACKHAWK



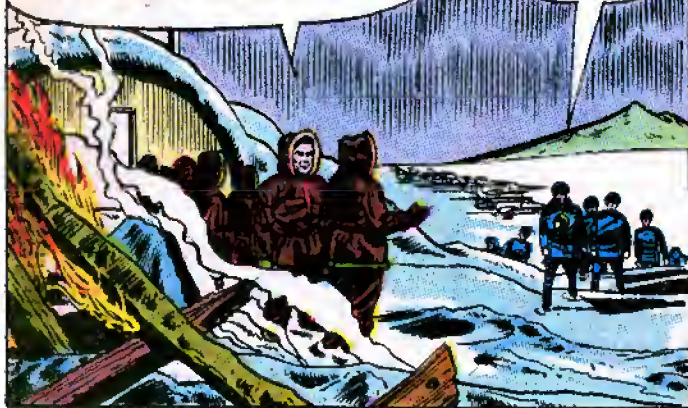




SHORTLY AFTER, NEAR THE BASE...

THANK GOODNESS YOU BLACKHAWKS ARRIVED IN TIME! WE COULDN'T HOLD OUT AGAINST THEIR SHELLFIRE AND MANPOWER! BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BLACKHAWK?

LOOKING FOR PROFESSOR JANUS! WHERE IS HE?



INLAND...AT THE DIGGINGS! IF YOU HAVE TO CONTACT HIM, YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK! ONE OF THE RED SHELLS KNOCKED OUT OUR RADIO SHACK!

THEN WE'LL FOLLOW JANUS ON FOOT! SNOWSHOES FOR FOUR, PLEASE!



F-FOUR? AREN'T ALL OF US GOING TO LOOK FOR JANUS?

NO, CHUCK! YOU, CHOP CHOP AND STANISLAUS HELP PUT OUT THE FIRES! I'LL PUSH ON WITH ANDRE, OLAF AND HENDRICKSON!



SHORTLY AFTER, ABOARD RAKOV'S SUBMARINE...

AHA, LADY LUCK BECKONS TO US! SOME OF THE BLACKHAWKS ARE HEAD-ING INLAND! OUTSIDE OF THEIR JETS, THE BLACK-HAWKS HAVE NOTHING BUT THEIR FISTS TO STOP US WITH! ALERT THE OTHER SUBMARINES! WE'RE LANDING AGAIN!



ONE HOUR LATER, INLAND...

P-PROFESSOR JANUS! IT'S THE BLACK-HAWKS!

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME!

JUST COME TO FREE WORLD HEAD-QUARTERS! WE'LL EXPLAIN ON THE WAY BACK!



SORRY, BLACKHAWK! PROFESSOR JANUS IS STAYING HERE! SO WILL YOU... BUT NOT ALIVE! CAPTAIN RAKOV RADIOED US TO EXPECT YOU!

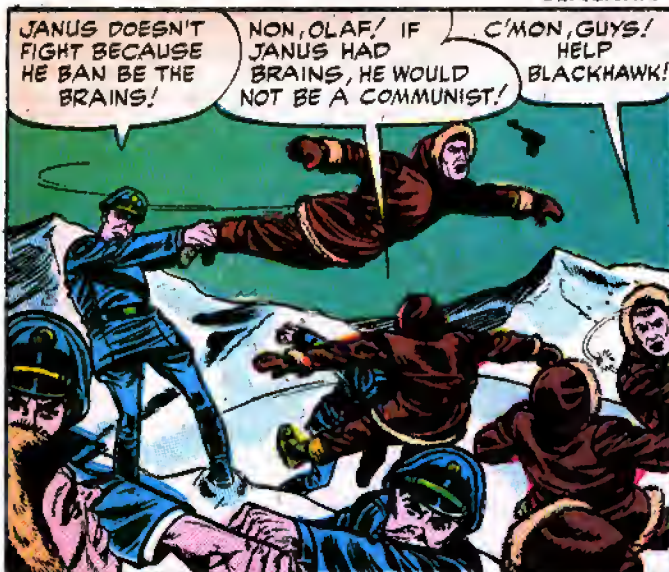
DID YOU ALSO EXPECT A SNOWBALL FIGHT? LET 'EM HAVE IT, MEN!



IT LOOKS LIKE JANUS TOOK A LOT OF COMMIE FRIENDS ALONG ON HIS EXPEDITION!

BUT WHY DOES ZE PROFESSOR STAND ASIDE? HE DOES NOT HELP ZEM!





JANUS DOESN'T FIGHT BECAUSE HE CAN BE THE BRAINS!

NON, OLAF! IF JANUS HAD BRAINS, HE WOULD NOT BE A COMMUNIST!

C'MON, GUYS! HELP BLACKHAWK!



WE HAD NO IDEA JANUS OR THESE OTHER GUYS WERE REDS! THEY SURE HAD US FOOLED, BLACKHAWK!

DON'T BLAME YOURSELF, PAL! THEY HAD FREE WORLD HEAD-QUARTERS FOOLED, ALSO, TILL THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY!



AND THEY WILL REMAIN FOOLED, BLACKHAWK! NONE OF YOU WILL LEAVE THE ANTARCTIC ALIVE! SURRENDER OR THESE SAILORS DIE!

ZE REDS FROM ZE SUBMARINES, BLACKHAWK! ZEY ARE HERE!



NATURALLY! YOU WERE VERY FOOLISH TO LEAVE YOUR JETS! THE BASE AND EVERY ONE AT IT ARE AT OUR MERCY, AS YOU ARE, PROFESSOR JANUS, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?



PERFECTLY, LIEUTENANT! I ALSO HAVE THE INFORMATION I NEEDED ABOUT THE PLUTONIUM LODE! ESCORT THE BLACKHAWKS BACK TO THE BASE! THEY ARE MORE VALUABLE TO US AS LIVE HOSTAGES!

AS YOU WISH, JANUS! YOU HEARD THE PROFESSOR! MARCH!



EXPLAIN A MYSTERY TO ME, PROFESSOR JANUS! WHAT IS A MAN OF YOUR BRAINS DOING ON THE SIDE OF THE REDS?

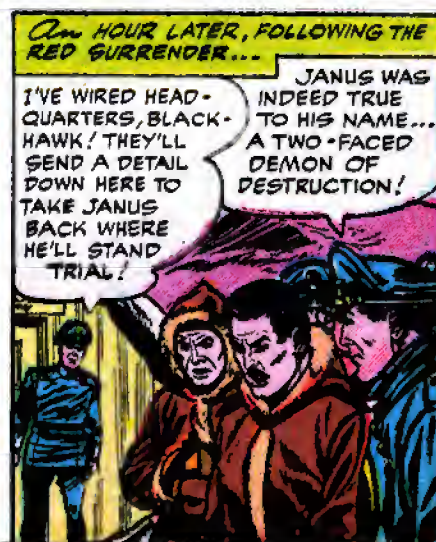
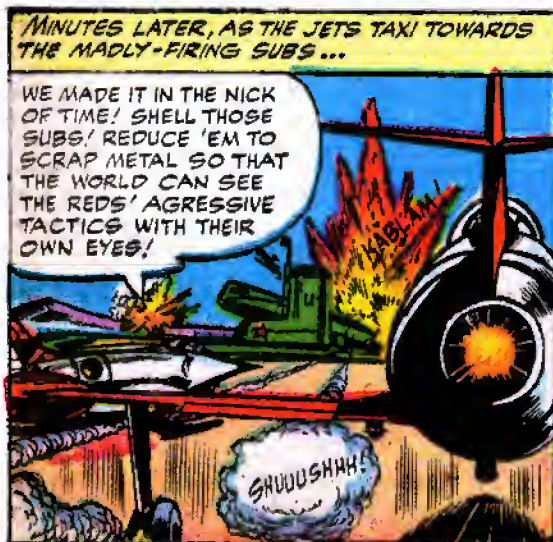
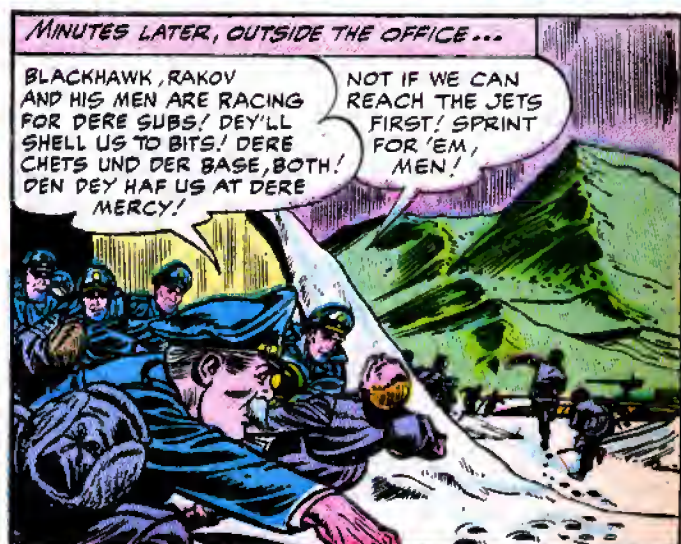
IT'S A LONG STORY, BLACKHAWK! BUT I'M IN IT TOO DEEPLY TO TURN BACK!



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO RIGHT A WRONG, PROFESSOR! MAKE YOUR PEACE WITH DEMOCRACY BY TURNING AGAINST THESE BEASTS! DON'T GIVE 'EM THE PLUTONIUM!

SILENCE, BLACKHAWK! MARCH!

BLACKHAWK



BLACKHAWK

HYPNO THE GREAT

THE newspaper headlines had screamed of society robberies for the past two months, but Mrs. Dwight D. Worthington continued her plans for the annual gala event to be held in her luxurious Park Avenue apartment. She even refused any assistance from the district attorney saying that the police would only frighten her guests, and dampen the party spirit.

This was to be a special occasion with Carleton James, world famous polo player and most eligible bachelor in the society circle, as the guest of honor. Everyone knew that Mrs. Worthington, now a lonely widow, considered Carleton as a possible suitor, and so it was natural to expect this party to be spectacular. She'd even engaged the fabulous *Hypno the Great* to entertain.

"Just who is this fellow, Hypno?" asked Carleton, forcing Mrs. Worthington into a secluded corner. "I've never heard of him."

"He spends most of his time in Europe," she reassured him excitedly. "His powers of hypnotism are the talk of Paris."

Carleton leaned a little more closely toward her, and in a stage whisper said, "But do you think it wise to invite such a man at this time? You know so little about him and with all those robberies, it might be dangerous."

Mrs. Worthington studied her arm covered with rare jewels of priceless value. "I hadn't thought of that. Perhaps you're right. I'll be careful."

The bright lights of the spacious apartment suddenly dimmed and the sound of a soft oriental melody drifted through the rooms as a green spotlight picked out a dark, little man with a red beard. From the air itself came a hidden voice announcing: "*Hypno the Great!*" There was a wave of applause and then silence.

"Ladies and Gentlemen," said a soft, easy voice. "The discovery of hypnosis has given the world new methods of understanding itself. We can now expose the darkest corners of our minds without the former insurmountable barriers. Tonight I'd like to demonstrate—not to embarrass—only to entertain everyone present."

"I don't like the looks of this faker," Carleton whispered into Mrs. Worthington's ear. "Stop the act and send him away!"

"Nonsense," she replied. "You're too suspicious. Those outrageous robberies have you suspecting everyone."

Hypno employed his powers on several volunteers who had dubiously stepped forward. The results fascinated the guests and soon every-

one applauded vigorously after each act. Hypno had his audience begging for more.

"Now," he said in his soothing voice, "who will be next?" Before there was time for a reply, he continued: "How about our illustrious guest of honor? Surely, by all rights, he should have been first." The audience followed Hypno's suggestion and pulled the reluctant Carleton James onto the improvised stage.

"I don't approve of this," he said indignantly. "I think you're a faker!"

The guests gasped, but Hypno seemed unruffled by this insult. He showed Carleton to a chair. His silver voice, the strange oriental music, and the weird green light playing upon Hypno's black eyes were potent inducements to drowsiness, and Carleton was forced to submit to Hypno's power.

"Now Ladies and Gentlemen, with Mr. James safely under my influence, I'll attempt a different method of questioning. One that should be of interest to all of you." Turning back to Carleton, he said, "What is your profession?"

"I'm a thief." There was an audible gasp from the guests.

"What do you know about these jewel robberies?"

"I know everything about them. I trained three specialists to carry out my plans to the finest details."

"But YOU alone were really responsible!"

"Absolutely. I engineered every robbery. It was pure genius."

At first the guests thought the examination had been a farce, but when they saw Hypno take off the red beard and wig, they knew the scene had been real.

"Sorry to break up your party, Mrs. Worthington, but I'm Detective McCreery from Robbery Detail. We knew all along that these society hold-ups had been inside jobs, and Carleton James was the only guest present at all the hold-ups. It was just a matter of time before we could get a full confession from him."

Detective McCreery snapped his fingers in front of Carleton's face, bringing him out of the trance unaware of what he had said.

"I had a delightful sleep," he said on awaking. "I guess I fooled that faker, Hypno! He couldn't make me talk!"

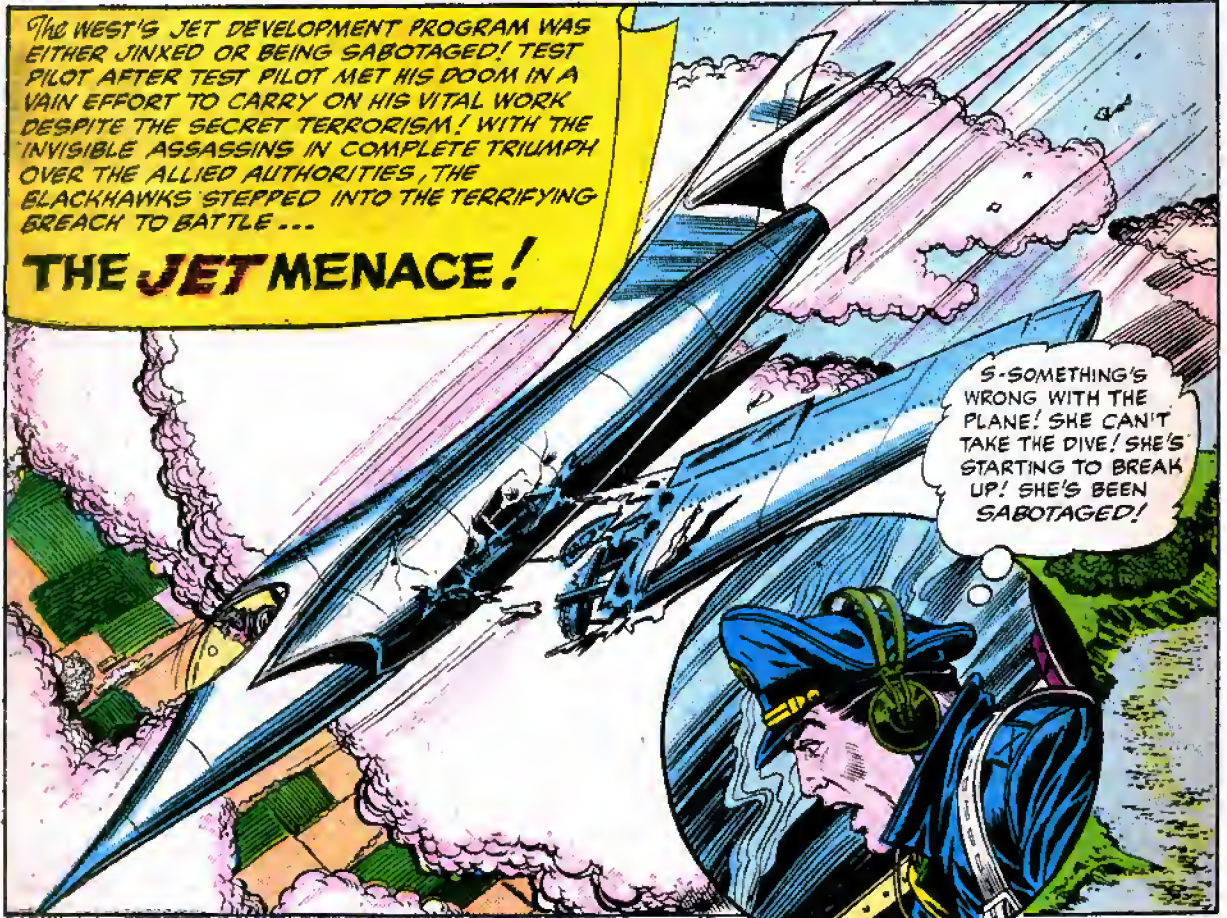
"You're right," said the detective, clapping handcuffs around his wrists. "Hypno couldn't hypnotize a flea!"

BLACKHAWK

BLACKHAWK

THE WEST'S JET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WAS EITHER JINKED OR BEING SABOTAGED! TEST PILOT AFTER TEST PILOT MET HIS DOOM IN A VAIN EFFORT TO CARRY ON HIS VITAL WORK DESPITE THE SECRET TERRORISM! WITH THE INVISIBLE ASSASSINS IN COMPLETE TRIUMPH OVER THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES, THE BLACKHAWKS STEPPED INTO THE TERRIFYING BREACH TO BATTLE ...

THE JET MENACE!



SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, THE BLACKHAWKS ARRIVE TO WITNESS A SECRET SHOWING OF THE LATEST EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT!

THIS IS MALCOLM CUMMINGS, THE GUIDING GENIUS OF OUR JET PROGRAM! MR. CUMMINGS, MEET BLACKHAWK!

I AM OVERWHELMED, BLACKHAWK! YOUR REPUTATION IS WORLD-FAMOUS! I HOPE GENERAL COX BRIEFED YOU ABOUT OUR SITUATION?



THE CASUALTIES AMONG OUR TEST PILOTS ARE APPALLING! THE NUMBER OF EXPERIMENTAL CRAFT WRECKED BRING OUR LOSSES INTO THE TENS OF MILLIONS!

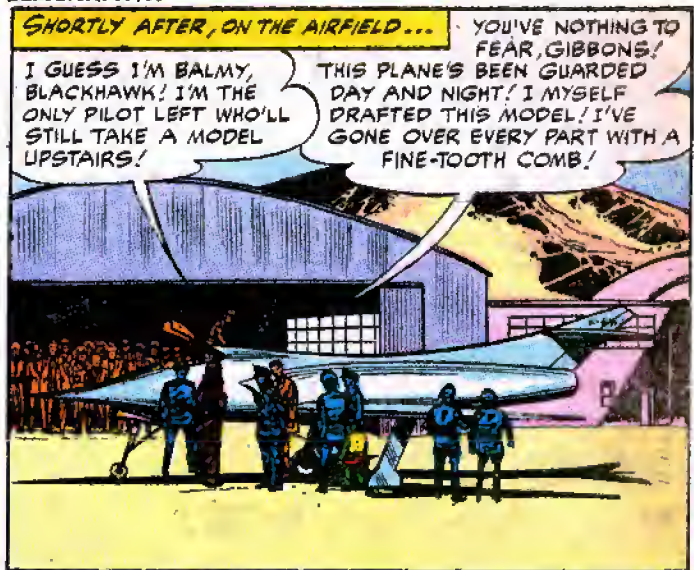
HANG THE MONEY, CUMMINGS! THE REAL LOSS IS IN HUMAN LIFE... AND THE DANGER OF FALLING BEHIND THE RUSSIANS IN THE JET DEVELOPMENT RACE!





NATURALLY! THAT'S WHAT I MEANT! DESPITE ALL OUR PRECAUTIONS, WE CAN'T SEND A CRAFT SKYWARD WITHOUT DISASTER STRIKING!

LET'S SEE THIS TEST FLIGHT YOU'VE SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, CUMMINGS!

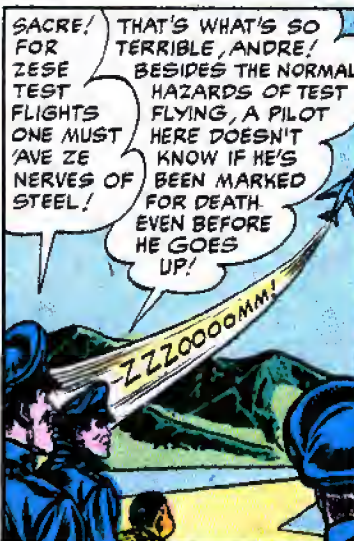


SHORTLY AFTER, ON THE AIRFIELD... I GUESS I'M BALMY, BLACKHAWK! I'M THE ONLY PILOT LEFT WHO'LL STILL TAKE A MODEL UPSTAIRS!

YOU'VE NOTHING TO FEAR, GIBBONS! THIS PLANE'S BEEN GUARDED DAY AND NIGHT! I MYSELF DRAFTED THIS MODEL! I'VE GONE OVER EVERY PART WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB!

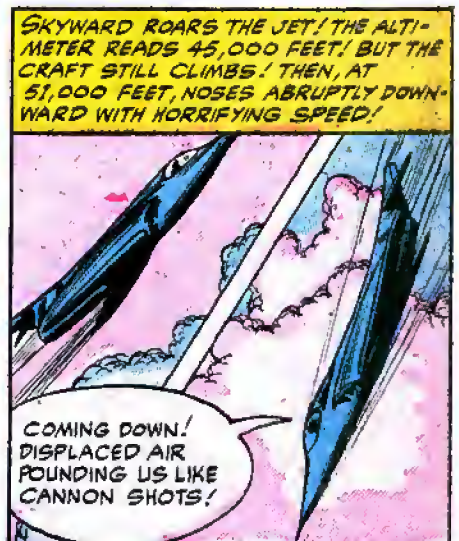


JUST THE SAME, MR. CUMMINGS, SAY A PRAYER FOR ME! MAYBE IT'LL BREAK THE JINX!



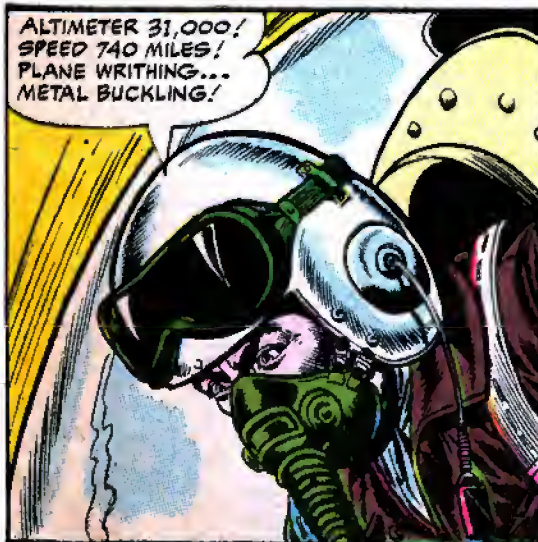
SACRE! FOR ZESE THAT'S WHAT'S SO TERRIBLE, ANDRE! BESIDES THE NORMAL HAZARDS OF TEST FLIGHTS, A PILOT HERE DOESN'T KNOW IF HE'S BEEN MARKED FOR DEATH, EVEN BEFORE HE GOES UP!

ZZZZOOOOOMM!

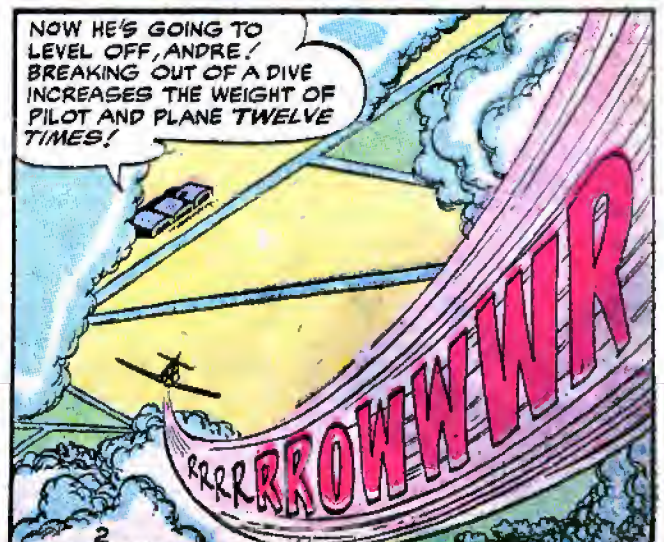


SKYWARD ROARS THE JET! THE ALTI-METER READS 45,000 FEET! BUT THE CRAFT STILL CLIMBS! THEN, AT 51,000 FEET, NOSES ABRUPTLY DOWN-WARD WITH HORRIFYING SPEED!

COMING DOWN! DISPLACED AIR POUNDING US LIKE CANNON SHOTS!



ALTIMETER 31,000! SPEED 740 MILES! PLANE WRITHING... METAL BUCKLING!



NOW HE'S GOING TO LEVEL OFF, ANDRE! BREAKING OUT OF A DIVE INCREASES THE WEIGHT OF PILOT AND PLANE TWELVE TIMES!

RRRRROWWWWR

WAIT! I-I CAN'T PULL HER OUT!
THE CONTROLS ARE FROZEN!
S-SHE'S COMING APART!
SHE'S COMING APART!



D-DONNERWETTER!
VY DOESN'T HE
CHUMP?

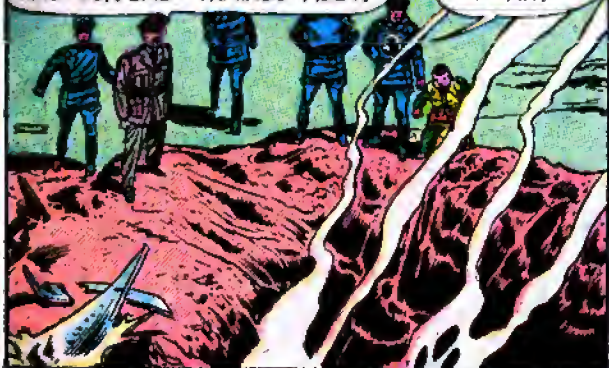
WAIT! HE
EJECTED THE
JET POD!
THERE HE IS!
HIS CHUTE IS
OPENING!



SHORTLY AFTER...

THAT DID IT! BAILING OUT AT
THAT SPEED HAS MADE GIBBONS
USELESS TO US AS A TEST
PILOT! HE'LL LIVE BUT HE WON'T
BE ABLE TO FLY JETS! GIBBONS
WAS OUR LAST TRAINED PILOT!

DON'T GIVE UP
YET, SIR! WHAT
WE'VE SEEN CON-
VINCES US BLACK-
HAWKS THAT WE
MUST CARRY ON
GIBBONS'
WORK!



JA, I'VE CAN'T
LET DER
MURDERERS
GET AWAY
MIT DIS!

BY YIMINY! NEVER!
THEY BAN GOT TO
KILL US FIRST!

YOU SEE,
CUMMINGS?
YOUR ENEMIES
JUST RECRUITED
SEVEN NEW PILOTS
FOR YOU!



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN THE DRAFTING ROOM...

SO THIS IS YOUR NEW
NIGHT FIGHTER,
CUMMINGS!
BEAUTIFUL
JOB!

THEY WERE ALL BEAUTIFUL
JOBS TILL THE SABOTEURS
RUINED THEM, BLACKHAWK!
LET'S HOPE YOU BRING YOUR
JET DOWN IN ONE PIECE
TOMORROW!



THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

ONE THING I CAN VOUCH
FOR, BLACKHAWK! NOBODY'S
BEEN NEAR THAT PLANE
EXCEPT MY OWN MEN!

IN THAT CASE, I
HAVE NOTHING TO
FEAR, CUMMINGS!
WE'LL SEE IF THE
PLANE IS AS GOOD
AS IT LOOKS ON
PAPER!



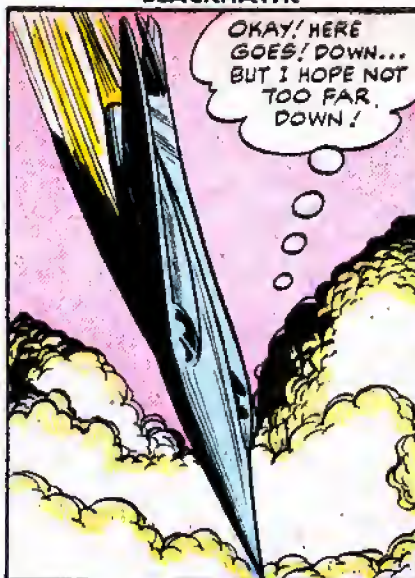
BLACKHAWK

SHORTLY AFTER...

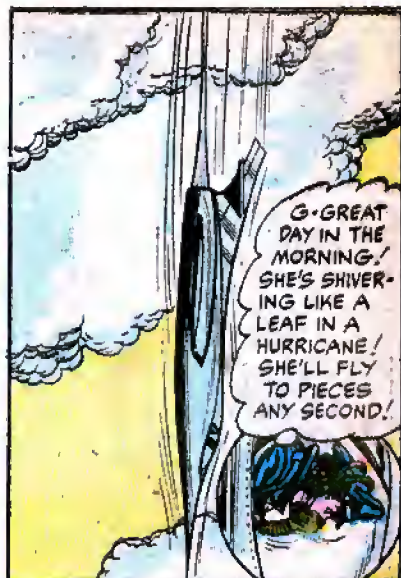
SHE CLIMBS LIKE A DREAM! LET'S HOPE SHE DOESN'T GO DOWN LIKE A NIGHTMARE!



OKAY! HERE GOES! DOWN... BUT I HOPE NOT TOO FAR, DOWN!



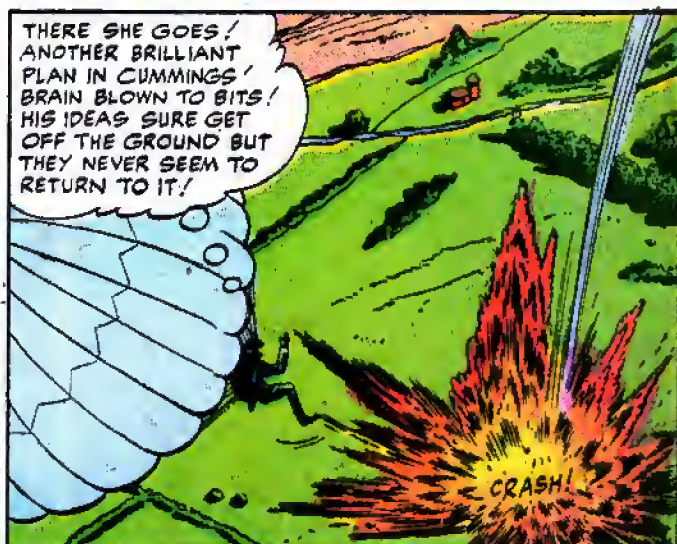
G-GREAT DAY IN THE MORNING! SHE'S SHIVERING LIKE A LEAF IN A HURRICANE! SHE'LL FLY TO PIECES ANY SECOND!



IT'S TIME THIS PLANE AND I PARTED COMPANY!



THERE SHE GOES! ANOTHER BRILLIANT PLAN IN CUMMINGS' BRAIN BLOWN TO BITS! HIS IDEAS SURE GET OFF THE GROUND BUT THEY NEVER SEEM TO RETURN TO IT!



That NIGHT, IN ANOTHER HANGAR...

TONIGHT WE'LL STAND GUARD, CUMMINGS! IF THERE'S NO FATAL MISTAKE IN YOUR PLANE DESIGNS, SOMEBODY ON THE GROUND'S BEEN TAMPERING WITH THE JETS!

AS YOU PLEASE, BLACKHAWK! HOWEVER, EVERYONE ON THE PREMISES HAS BEEN HANDICAPPED BY ME! FROM GREASE-MONKEY TO DRAFTSMAN, I'D STAKE MY LIFE ON THEIR RELIABILITY!

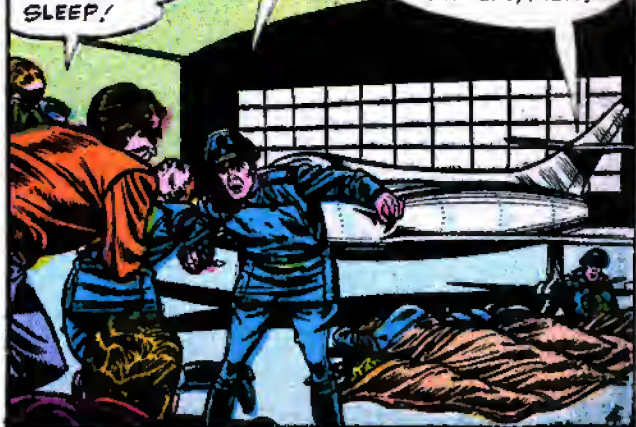


LATER THAT EVENING...

QUICK! OVERWHELM THEM WHILE THEY SLEEP!

BLACKHAWK!

GREAT GUNS! CHUCK AND STANISLAUS ARE BEING SWAMPED! AT 'EM, MEN!



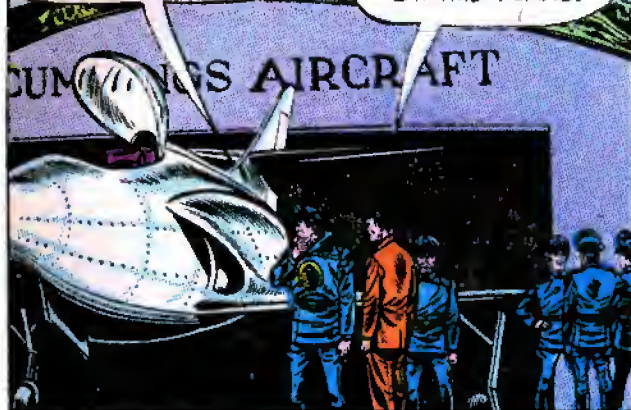
BLACKHAWK



THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

I KNOW WE WATCHED THE PLANE ALL NIGHT, CUMMINGS, BUT I STILL THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS JET!

NONSENSE, BLACKHAWK! I DOUBLE-CHECKED EVERY PART MYSELF! I'D STAKE MY LIFE ON THIS PLANE!



OKAY, CUMMINGS! THEN STAKE IT! WE'LL RUN THE TEST TOGETHER! SINCE YOUR PLANE IS SO SAFE YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!

B-BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS! I'M NOT A TEST PILOT! BLACKHAWK... PLEASE...



Now MINUTES LATER, AT A HEIGHT OF 42,000 FEET!...

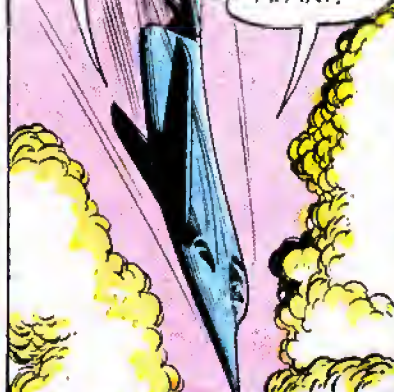
NOW WE'LL PUT YOUR JET THROUGH ITS PACES! FIRST WE'LL TAKE HER THROUGH THE SOUND BARRIER!

N-NO! WAIT, BLACK-HAWK! AN ACCIDENT CAN HAPPEN TO THE B-BEST OF PLANES!



BUT YOU TOLD ME THIS JET WAS FOOL-PROOF!

I-I KNOW... BUT SLOW DOWN, BLACKHAWK! SLOW DOWN! SHE CAN'T TAKE THIS SPEED! SHE'LL COME APART!



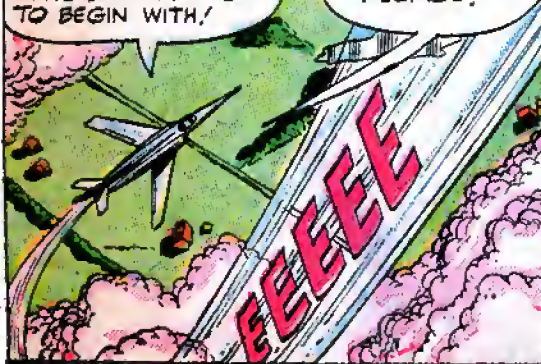
NONSENSE! I'M ONLY DOING 530 MILES AN HOUR! SHE'S BUILT TO TAKE 830!

N-NO! NO! SHE ISN'T! WE'LL CRACK UP! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE... I BUILT FLAWS INTO HER! I DELIBERATELY MADE THE PLANE FAULTY!



I HAD A HUNCH THE SABOTAGE WAS AN INSIDE JOB! THAT'S WHY I TRICKED YOU INTO MAKING THIS TRIP! YOU SABOTAGED ALL THE PLANES ON THE DRAFTING BOARDS, CUMMINGS! THEY WERE BUILT WRONG-TO BEGIN WITH!

Y-YES! YES! I ADMIT IT ALL! J-JUST TAKE ME DOWN! PLEASE!



MINUTES LATER, ON THE FIELD...

ALLONS, BLACKHAWK! DID ZE TRICK WORK? IS CUMMINGS ZE BRAINS BEHIND ZE COMMIE SABOTAGE RING?

AND HOW, ANDRE! AS CHIEF OF THE JET RESEARCH PROGRAM HE DELIBERATELY SABOTAGED HIS OWN MODELS! WHAT A JUICY SPOT FOR A RED SABOTEUR TO BE IN!



IT WAS JUICIER THAN YOU KNOW! EVERY MEMBER OF THE GROUND CREW IS A RED AGENT, TOO! I HANDPICKED 'EM MYSELF!

RIGHT, BLACKHAWK! WE WENT THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF JET BUILDING AND TESTING IN ORDER TO STALL THE JET PROGRAM AND DESTROY IT! WIPE 'EM OUT, MEN!

CUMMINGS

WE'LL FINISH THE JOB WE SET OUT TO DO LAST NIGHT!

ONLY TO MEET WITH THE SAME FAILURE! LET 'EM HAVE IT, MEN!

DESE CRIMINALS SENT TEST PILOTS TO DERE DOOM! LET 'EM LEARN A LESSON DEY NEVER FORGET!

B-BLACKHAWK! CUMMINGS IS TAKING A POWDER!

WINGS AIRCRAFT

I SAW HIM, CHUCK! TAKE CARE OF THE GROUND CREW! I'LL PURSUE CUMMINGS IN ONE OF OUR JETS!

C-CUMMINGS! NO! DON'T USE THAT JET! IT'S...

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER, OVER THE NORTH SEA...

CUMMINGS IS JAMMING MY RADIO! I CAN'T TELL HIM HE TOOK UP A DEFECTIVE PLANE BY MISTAKE!

HEH-HEH! I'LL LET 'ER OUT! I'LL SOON BE SAFE IN RED TERRITORY!

W-WAIT! SOMETHING'S WRONG! THE W-WINGS...

THERE IT GOES! IN GOING FASTER THE PLANE CAME APART! CUMMINGS IS DONE FOR!

SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE BASE...

CUMMINGS IS GONE! HE MET DEFEAT AT HIS OWN HANDS!

IT'S THE OLD SAYING, BLACKHAWK! "EVIL TO HIM WHO EVIL DOES!" THANKS FOR SMASHING THE JET SABOTAGE RING! NOW WE CAN REALLY KEEP 'EM FLYING!



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